Poor quality food served in IA flights

658. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints regarding the poor quality of food served in the Indian Airlines flights;

(b) how much it costs to Indian Airlines for each breakfast, lunch and dinner which it serves to passengers;

(c) the number of times Indian Airlines Board reviews the facilities provided to the passengers including the food and at what level it is monitored; and

(d) whether Government will consider appointing a high level Committee to go into the quality of food and other facilities provided to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an average Indian Airlines is spending about Rs.115/- per passenger on meals.

(c) Indian Airlines has a separate In-flight Service Department to look after the In-flight Service. This Department check on the quality of food and reviews the menu. It is reviewed at the Board Level also from time to time.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

New Civil Aviation Projects in Karnataka

659. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects taken up by his Ministry in Karnataka;

(b) whether Government has sanctioned the International Airport for Bangalore at Devenahalli; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider giving immediate approval for the project?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Airports Authority of India has undertaken the following works at various airports in Karnataka during the last 15 months:—

Bangalore Airport

(i) An integrated International Terminal building Commissioned on 1.1.1999.

(ii) The existing terminal building has also been modified to cater to 2000 passengers;

(iii) Two aerobridges have been commissioned on 30.9.1999.

Mangalore Airport

(i) The existing terminal building expanded by 300 sq. mts and facilities like conveyors, air conditioning commissioned in November, 1998;

(ii) A new instrument landing system commissioned in June 1998.

Hubli Airport

Ground lighting facilities commissioned in May, 1999

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government does not intend to invest itself.

Disinvestment of Government Stake in Air India

660. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to disinvest its stake in Air India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission of India to disinvest Government's equity in Air India are under consideration.